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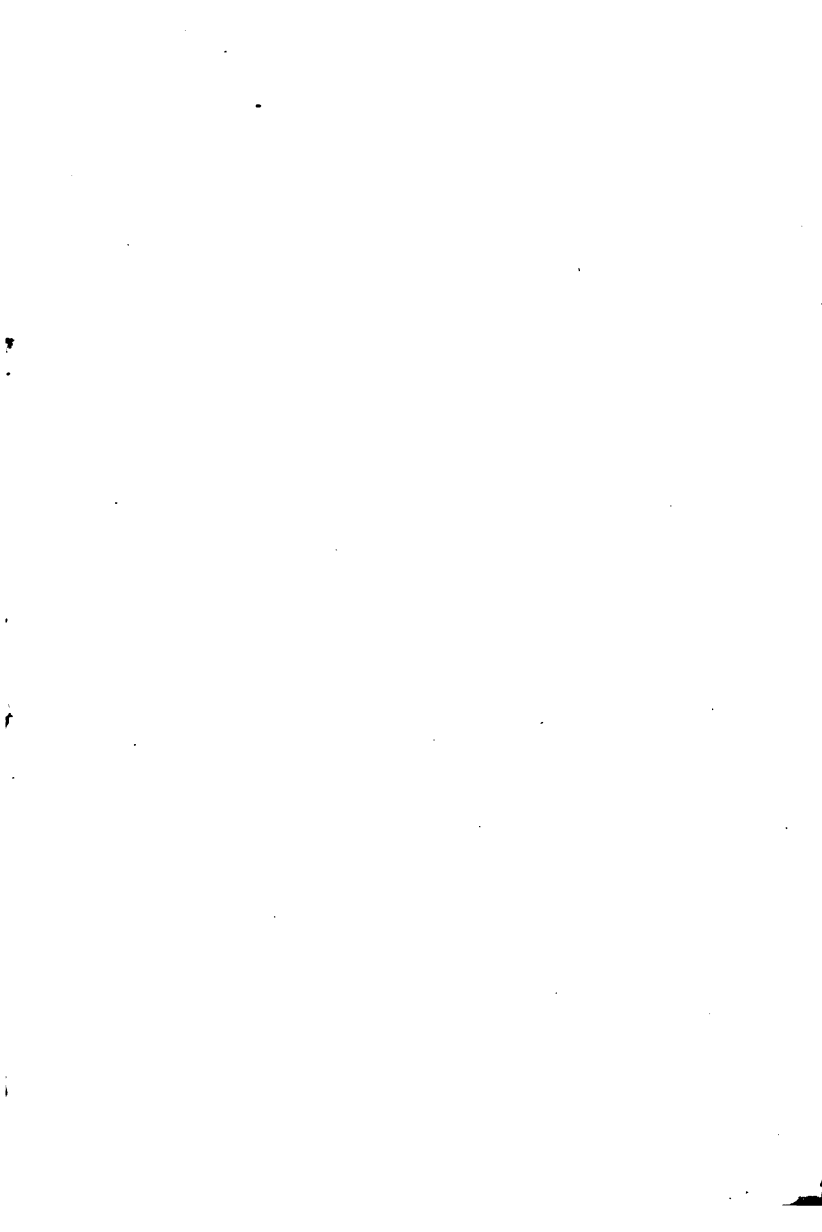
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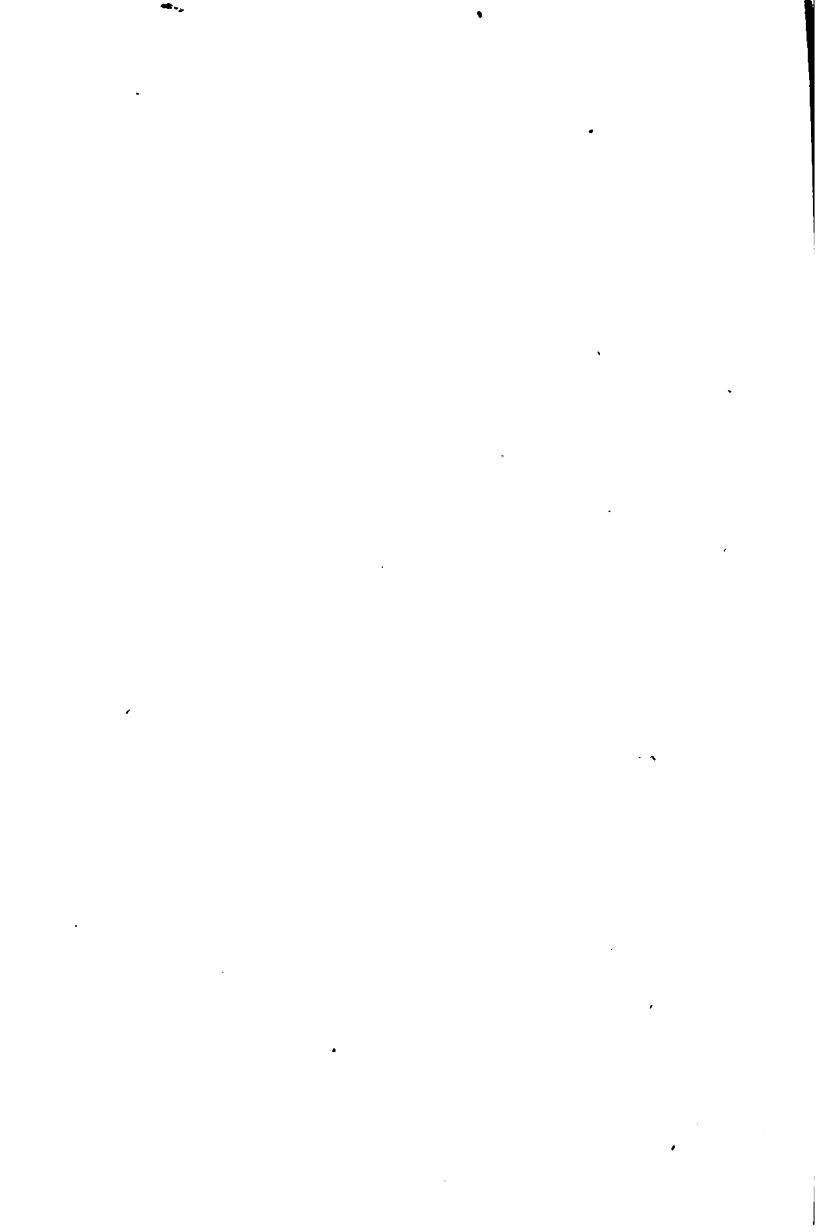
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THE

YOUTH'S

PRAYER BOOK.

BOSTON:
GRAY AND BOWEN,
1830.

THE BRATTLE
SQUARE YOUTHFUL SOCIETY

GIVEN
By Mrs. Henry W. Foote,
10 May, 1890

ADVERTISEMENT.

The following compilation is a sequel to the CHILD'S PRAYER BOOK. It was prepared to put into the hands of young persons of the Church in Brattle Square, between twelve and fourteen years of age.

THE

YOUTH'S

PRAYER BOOK.

SHORT PRAYER FOR THE MORNING.

Great God; Creator and Sovereign Ruler of the Universe; in the morning I lift up my heart unto thee, for thou art the tenderest of fathers; to thee I owe my life and all the blessings I enjoy; in thee my hope and confidence are placed. I give thee thanks that thou hast preserved me during the past night, and that thy goodness is renewed towards me this day. Grant this day whatever thou knowest to be truly beneficial to me; preserve me from distressing accidents; enable me to fulfil every duty, and add thy blessing to the pains bestowed on my instruction. Conduct me in the path in which I should go; that as I advance in age I may grow in knowledge, in

virtue and in piety; and that whilst I am laboring for my advantage in the present life, I may prepare myself for the life which is to come. Bless my parents; be the protector of my country and of the church. I invoke thee in the name of Jesus Christ my Saviour. *Our Father, &c.*

SHORT PRAYER FOR THE EVENING.

I thank thee, O my God, that thou hast preserved me through this day, and hast provided for all my wants. Pardon the sins by which I have offended against thee. Help me to correct my imperfections and to perform my duties more fully. Cover me with thy protection through the approaching night; preserve and protect my [parents and] friends; pity all who stand in need of thy supporting hand. Listen to my prayer, I beseech thee, through thy son, and our redeemer, Jesus Christ. *Our Father, &c.*

MORNING PRAYER.

Almighty and most merciful Father, thou keepest me from harm by night and by day, and art always doing me good. I thank thee that thou hast taken such care of me the last night, and that I am alive and well this morning.

Save me from evil all this day; and where-soever I am, let me always remember that thou God seest me, that so I may not dare to sin against thee.

Bless all my friends, as well as myself; do good to them at all times, and in all places, and help me always to serve them in love.

And when I have done thy will here on earth, by thy grace assisting me, then give my soul a place in heaven, to dwell with thee there, and with thy son Jesus Christ; for heaven and earth, and all things in them are thine, for evermore. *Amen.*

EVENING PRAYER.

O Lord God, thou knowest all things. Thou seest me by night as well as by day; and art acquainted with all my words, and with all my thoughts.

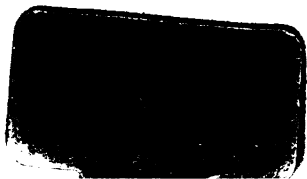
Make me thankful for all the mercies I have received this day, and every day of my past life; and may I ever consider thee as the great author of all the good things I enjoy.

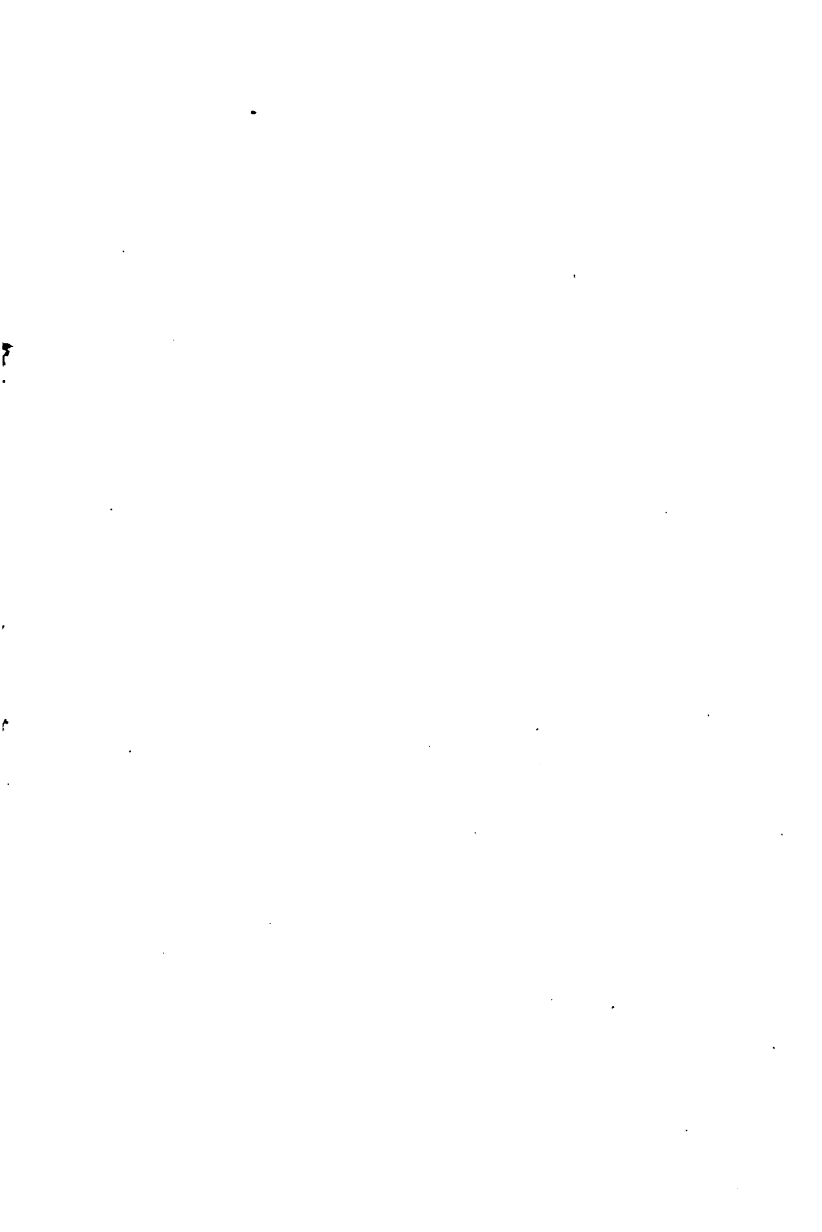
Bless all my friends and relations. May they be continually under thy protection and care. Make me affectionate towards them. May I love them for their kindness to me.

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THE

YOUTH'S

PRAYER BOOK.

BOSTON:
GRAY AND BOWEN,
1830.

ters wish me. O may I live as thy obedient child, and be a Christian in spirit and in deed. O God, I look to thee for guidance and assistance this day, and every day of my future life, and when I die, may I be received into thy heavenly kingdom, through Jesus Christ. *Amen.*

EVENING PRAYER.

O Lord, my heavenly Father; I thank thee that thou hast added another day to my life; and hast not suffered evil to befall me. I praise thy name for the food which thou givest me, and the raiment with which I am clothed; and for all the kindness of my [parents and] friends to me. Thy mercies, O God, are as many as the moments of my life. Especially I thank thee, that thou hast taught me, through Jesus Christ, what I ought to know and do, in order to be useful here, and happy hereafter. Forgive, I pray thee, whatever I have said or done this day contrary to thy holy will. Bless my [parents, my] relations, my teachers and friends, and all my fellow men. O my Father, guide my inexperienced feet. As I grow in years may I grow in wisdom and in goodness. May I be industrious, so that I may be useful;

and virtuous, so that I may be happy. May I avoid bad company; and seek continually to please thee. May I remember that thou art with me wherever I am, and that thou seest me in all I do. I desire to give up myself to thee for this night. Wilt thou defend me from every harm, and may I awake in the morning, prepared to serve thee better than I have ever served thee before. Hear me, O God, in these my prayers, through Jesus Christ. *Amen.*

MORNING PRAYER.

Great and glorious God, who hast made the sun in the skies to give light by day; thy throne is in the highest heaven, yet thy goodness takes notice of thy creatures on earth, and thou hearest when children pray to thee.

Look down, O Lord, and pity me; for I desire to be heartily sorry that I have so often offended thee, by breaking thy commandments; and when I am serious, I am grieved to think that I should be so ready to break them again. O God of mercy, punish me not as my faults and follies deserve, either in this world, or in the world to come. But when thou bringest pain or trouble upon me, let me be patient under it, and grow the

better for it. Send thy good spirit into my heart, to subdue my evil inclinations and form me after the likeness of thy son Jesus Christ. Preserve me from the danger of evil company, and let me choose and love the company of the wise and good; nor suffer me to waste those hours in idleness or play, which are allotted for my learning or work. Keep my heart from malice and from evil thoughts. Preserve my tongue from lying and slandering, and all evil words. Withhold my hands from fighting and stealing, and all evil actions. Guard my feet from running into mischief. Let me dwell with my companions in peace and love, and be ready to help them at all times. Let me not dare to sin against thee in secret, remembering that I am always in thy sight. Grant me sufficient food and raiment while I live. Increase my strength daily. Secure me from sickness and from death in my younger days, that I may do some service for thee on earth; and when I die, and my body is carried to the grave, may my soul be taken up to live forever with thee and with thy son Jesus Christ.

I pray thee, bless all my dear and honored relations and friends, and grant them those mercies that are proper for them here,

and eternal life hereafter. Give wisdom to all my teachers, that they may instruct me in what is best for me to know. Assist me to learn every thing that is needful for me in this world, or that may keep me in my way to heaven. And if my [parents or] governors see it necessary to correct me, let me not grow sullen, but meekly submit, and take care to amend what I have done amiss.

I praise thee, O Lord, for all the blessings I have ever received, for they all come from thee. I give thee thanks for my rest the last night, and that I find myself in peace this morning. I bless thee for my sight and hearing, for all my senses and my powers of mind and body ; and above all, for the Holy Bible, and for all the helps that I enjoy in order to the salvation of my soul. Let me so carefully fulfil all my duties every day, that I may come with delight to worship thee when the evening returns. Heavenly Father, accept all my prayers and praises through Jesus Christ, thy well beloved son.
Amen.

EVENING PRAYER.

O Lord God Almighty, the creator of all things in heaven and earth ; thou hast ap-

pointed the night for rest, and thou watchest over thy children while they sleep, so that if we please thee, we need not be afraid of any thing that can hurt us. Thou seest us in the darkest hours, and knowest all that we think as well as all that we speak or do ; therefore we would ever fear to sin against thee. Thou hast all power, and art rich in all mercy ; therefore we pray to thee for every thing that we want.

But I deserve no good thing from thy hands. I have sinned grievously against thee. Too often have I done the things which thou hast forbidden, and refused or neglected to do what thou hast commanded.

Forgive, I pray thee, all the evil words that I have spoken, and all the evil works that I have done, ever since I came into this world ; make me truly sorry for all my sins, and let me repent of them heartily here on earth. I am one day older than I was before ; O that I may be so much the wiser and better. Gracious God, take care of me all this night, and raise me up again in the morning to get more knowledge of thee, and to do more service for thee. Let me daily be better prepared to appear before the judgment seat of Christ. [May my dear

and honored parents be beloved of thee, and let it be my constant delight to please them.] Bless my kindred and friends, my governors and teachers, the rulers of the nation, and the ministers of thy church. Show kindness to all who show kindness to me. Forgive my enemies, and help me to forgive them, O Lord, as I hope and pray for thy forgiveness myself; and make me sincere in desiring their good who have done me evil.

O most merciful God, I render my most hearty thanks to thee for all the good things that I enjoy; I praise thee, that I have a house to dwell in, and clothes to keep me warm; that I have friends who gave me up to thee in my youngest years, and who take care to instruct me in things necessary for this life, who teach me also thy holy word, in order to guide me in the way to life everlasting. Let not their cares for me be lost, but may I do them honor in this world, and at length be reunited to them in the family of the just made perfect, in the house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens. I offer my prayer in the name of Jesus Christ, thy son. *Amen.*

MORNING PRAYER.

O Lord God, most high and most holy, the Creator, the Governor, and the Judge of all mankind ; I adore thy majesty, and worship thee with humble reverence. Thou art infinitely wise, powerful and gracious, far beyond our highest thought, and above all our praises. Thou hast made the daylight for the business of life, and hast raised me in comfort from the bed of sleep to see another morning.

I acknowledge that I am unworthy to approach thee with my prayers. My sins are many. But thou hast declared thyself a condescending and forgiving Father, and encouragest thy penitent children to return to thee with hope and love.

Let thy mercy, O Lord, blot out my offences. Pity, O Heavenly Father, my blindness and ignorance. Instruct me by thy word and thy good spirit, that I may know more of myself, and my own wants and weaknesses, and that I may know thee better in the discoveries of thy grace. Teach me the precepts of thy law, that I may learn what is my duty. Work in my heart sincere repentance for all my past offences, and let

my faith in Jesus be such as thou wilt approve, such as may draw my heart near to thee in holy love, and produce the good fruits of obedience in the whole course of my life. Form my soul, O Lord, after thy divine image. Rectify all the irregular inclinations that are within me. Keep me from the power of unruly appetites, and from sudden and ungovernable passions of every kind. Help me to set a constant watch over all my senses, and the wandering imaginations of my heart, and to suppress all undue resentment of whatsoever injuries I meet with. Let such a meek and serene temper be wrought in me, as appeared in my blessed Saviour here on earth. Kindle in my soul such a flame of love to thee, and charity towards men, that I may make it my delight to do good unto all, even to those who have done me hurt. Let thy kind providence secure me from the snares and temptations of this vain world, and from the daily occasions of sin, that iniquity may never get the victory over me. And if at any time I am more exposed to special dangers in the circumstances of my life, the more let me experience the present aids of thy grace, that I may be preserved from transgression. Suf-

fer me not to be led away by evil companions to forsake the paths of truth and godliness ; nor let me ever be afraid or ashamed to profess myself a worshipper of thee, and a believer in Jesus. Let health and peace be continued to me this day, and no evil occurrence attend me. Direct and incline my heart to employ every hour of my time aright, and enable me so to fulfil my various duties to God and man, that I may in some measure approve myself, in the evening, to the inquiries of my own conscience, and be approved by thee, my witness and judge. When thou seest it needful to correct me, O my God, let it be done in measure and in mercy, and let the fruit and effect thereof be to take away my sins, and to make me partaker of thy holiness.

Nor would I pray for myself only, but for all men, as thou hast taught me. Enlighten the whole earth with the light of thy gospel ; deliver those that are persecuted for righteousness' sake, and let the spirit of persecution be rooted out from among men.

May our rulers be directed by thy wisdom, and influenced by thy grace, that they may be made blessings to this nation. Maintain thy gospel in its power and purity. Let the

ministry of thy word be prospered, that thy church on earth may be enlarged daily, and knowledge and holiness may increase and abound among men. Look down in mercy on my relations and friends. Bless my [parents and] kindred with all the necessary gifts of providence and grace. Manifest thy love to all those that love me, and enable me from my heart to forgive all that have done me hurt. Let them repent of their sins, O Lord, and be made partakers of thy forgiveness.

I would offer up my humble thanks for all the mercies I enjoy, and for all I hope for. It is to thee, O God, that I owe my very life and being, my health and ease, and the use of my senses and my limbs; thou givest me safety in the night, and the blessings of the morning. It is from thee that I derive all the benefits of food and raiment, the daily supports of nature, together with the rich promises of grace and eternal salvation. To thee, therefore, O Lord, I pay all homage and praise through Jesus Christ, my Saviour. *Amen.*

EVENING PRAYER.

Great and glorious Majesty, God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who hast

encouraged us to call thee our God and our Father, look down from heaven, the habitation of thy holiness, and take notice of an unworthy creature, who is come to bow down and worship this evening at thy footstool.

Thou art God, and there is none else; the heavens and the earth were created by thy word; all things are ever within thy view, nor can the shadows of the night hide me from thine eye; thou knowest all the works of my hands, and the secret thoughts of my heart.

I stand condemned in thy sight; for my heart has too often forgotten thee; nor has my zeal and diligence in duty been answerable to the obligations thou hast laid upon me. Spare me, O most gracious God, according to the multitude of thy tender mercies. Spare my life, till thy grace has made me fitter for the hour of death. Subdue every sinful inclination. Mortify all the vicious principles which thou seest in me. Strengthen my pious resolutions under all the frailties of youth, and against the assaults of temptation; for though I would willingly avoid every thing that displeases thee, yet I know my own weakness, and therefore I

humbly put myself under the constant protection of thy grace. Preserve my younger years from the pollutions of the world, and guard me through all this dangerous stage of life. Let me not repeat any of the follies or sins that have this day overtaken me, but help me to set a more careful and perpetual watch over my thoughts, my lips, and my actions, that I may not so offend. Choose thou, O Lord, my inheritance for me, and my portion in this world, and be thou my portion and my happiness in the world to come. Let not my heart be set on grandeur and riches, but fix my affections on the things that are above, where Jesus Christ is at thy right hand. Let me be truly content with the disposals of thy providence in this present life, waiting for complete felicity in the next. And O, my Heavenly Father, if thou see it necessary to smite me with the rod of affliction in this state of trial, make me patient and submissive under all the sorrows I sustain; let me receive with holy meekness the correcting strokes of thy hand. Bear me up under all the heavy burdens that may be laid upon me, and carry me safely through the trials and difficulties that may attend my way. Let me never be discour-

aged in my duties, nor grow weary of well-doing, trusting to thy gracious promise, that I shall reap a joyful harvest in due time, if I faint not. Search me and try me, O Lord, this evening, and discover to me wherein I have wandered from thee; make me truly penitent for all my wanderings, and bring back my feet to the paths of holiness and peace. Thus, by judging myself at the end of every day, let me be better prepared for my solemn appearance before thy awful seat of judgment; and by the constant practice of piety here on earth, let me grow daily more meet to perform the business, and to enjoy the blessedness of heaven.

I would lay myself down to rest this night under the shadow of thy wings, under the protection of thy providence, and the guard of thy grace. Let thy holy angels have charge over me while I sleep, and suffer no evil imaginations to molest or disquiet me. Whether I wake or sleep, live or die, let me be thine forever.

Let virtue and religion be defended and encouraged by all that are exalted to stations of honor and authority in this land. Bestow thy choicest favors [on my dear parents, &c. and] on all that are related to me in the

bonds of nature ; let them be made partakers of thy heavenly and everlasting grace. Bless my superiors of every kind, my teachers and my governors ; and may I behave myself in my station of life as becomes a Christian, toward all those whom thy providence has set over me.

After the many requests I have offered for the mercies I want, I beg leave to render humble thanks to thy majesty for the blessings I have received. I praise thee, my God, for the measures of ease and health which I enjoy ; for the kind providences which have attended me this day ; and that so many of the comforts of life have been continually provided for me, that I have not been exposed to those hardships and temptations, which have surrounded others in their younger years. Above all, I bless thee, my Father, for the full and rich discovery of thy grace to mankind in the holy scriptures, and I desire forever to praise thee, that while millions of young creatures are brought up in ignorance and gross darkness, I was born and brought up under the sound of thy gospel ; and that I have been led into an early acquaintance with thy holy word.

Accept, I entreat thee, all these petitions and thank-offerings in the name of Jesus Christ, thy well beloved son. *Amen.*

TO BE USED AT ANY TIME.

O my Father, who art in heaven ; I rejoice that I am always in thy presence, and that I am permitted to look up to thee at all times. Help me to receive all thy mercies with thankfulness, and to improve them to thy glory. Deliver me from temptation, and from all evil, and keep me in thy fear, and in thy love, all the days of my life. *Amen.*

ANOTHER.

Thou, Lord, seest my thoughts, and needest not that I should speak aloud my desires. O accept my thanks for all thy goodness to me. Help me to show my gratitude, by devoting all that I have, and all that I am, to thy service, and to the good of those around me. Deliver me from sin, and all evil, and do me good continually, for thy mercy's sake in Christ Jesus. *Amen.*

ANOTHER.

O thou, who art the giver of life, and the author of every blessing ; I desire to do hom-

age to thee as my great creator and constant benefactor, my almighty protector and everlasting friend. Every day I experience thy goodness, and have new motives to love and obedience. I rejoice that thou hast made me a reasonable being, and formed me for virtue and happiness. I adore thy goodness in the means and opportunities for improvement, with which I am favored; and I esteem it my privilege, that I have the precepts of Jesus Christ for my guide, his example for my imitation; and for my encouragement, the promise of immortal felicity.

Teach me to set a high value on these privileges, and to act under the sacred influence of this expectation. In obedience to the laws of religion, may I love thee supremely, and love my neighbour as myself. Incline me to forsake every false way; to speak the truth always; to do justly; to exercise mercy; and to walk humbly before thee. Save me from those criminal excesses, to which, through the inexperience of youth, I am now exposed. Inspire me with an unconquerable love of virtue. And advancing in years, may I grow in favor both with God and man.

Suffer me not to lose the season of improvement, or to neglect any opportunity for acquiring useful knowledge. Through thy precepts, may I get understanding; and, whilst preparing for the duties of mature life, may I lay up in store a good foundation against the time to come. So teach me to number my days, that I may apply my heart unto wisdom. Enable me to understand my errors; cleanse me from secret faults; preserve me from all presumptuous sins. In every relation, and at every period of life, may I so conduct myself that my heart shall not reproach me. And when the scene of my probation shall close, may I partake of the glory and blessedness revealed by Jesus Christ my Saviour. *Amen.*

ANOTHER.

Almighty God and most merciful Father; I adore thee as my maker, and preserver, and the giver of every good thing that I enjoy. I thank thee for the gift of reason, whereby I am capable of knowing thee, and of learning and doing thy will; but more especially I thank thee for thy promise of the forgiveness of sins to all sincere penitents, and of eternal life to all who carefully

obey thee, delivered to the world by thy son Christ Jesus. Do thou, out of thy abundant goodness, forgive all my sins, and strengthen my resolution to keep thy holy commandments for the time to come. Enable me to be, in a more especial manner, upon my guard against those vices and follies to which my youth is peculiarly prone. Teach me to avoid the snares of bad company, and to continue in the practice of my duty, notwithstanding all the temptations to which I am exposed. Make me to be resigned to thy will in all the events of life, and to grow wiser and better by all the dispensations of thy providence. May I love all mankind as my brethren, and forgive those that have offended me, as I myself hope to be forgiven. And, after a faithful and cheerful discharge of my duty on earth, may I be received into thy kingdom of glory, and into the company of all good men, and of Jesus Christ for ever. *Amen.*

ANOTHER.

Kind author of my being, and fountain of all good influences; give me grace to flee those youthful lusts which war against the soul. Help me to remember and apply those

useful lessons which I have learned from my [parents,] friends and teachers; and may I never depart from the good way in which I have been taught to walk. Preserve my tongue from uttering falsehood and deceit, and my hands from committing injustice. Preserve me from all evil and corrupt communications. Direct me in the choice of my companions. Teach me christian sobriety, and defend me against all unchastity in thought, word, and action. Clothe me with the ornament of a meek, humble, and contented spirit. Dispose me to respect the counsels of age and experience. Help me to avoid every action which I should wish to conceal, and may I keep a conscience void of offence.

Send thy blessing on the family to which I belong. May we enjoy the comforts of mutual affection and assistance in our several stations, and may all of us meet finally in the family of heaven.

Bless my companions. In all our social intercourse may we stand in awe and sin not.

I would cherish dutiful affection toward my superiors, and the aged. Prolong their lives and their usefulness, and when they shall have gone the way of all flesh, with

thankful hearts for their good instructions and example, may we, their successors, enter into their labors, prepared to sustain every toil, and perform every duty, which belong to manhood. I pray for these and all other blessings in the name of Jesus Christ, humbly aspiring to be placed in the number of his disciples. *Amen.*

ANOTHER.

Almighty and most merciful God, who hast called me into being, that I might enjoy thy bounty here, and be prepared for everlasting happiness hereafter; I look up to thee, the source of every blessing, beseeching thee to guide, to support and strengthen me. Surrounded with dangers, to whom should I apply for succour but to thee, who hast promised that those who seek thee early and diligently shall find thee? O help me habitually to remember thee, my Creator, Benefactor, Redeemer and Judge. Impress on my mind that reverence of thee, which is the beginning of wisdom. Dispose me to value as I ought, the religion of thy blessed son, and to make his doctrine and example, my great directory and rule. Preserve me from all corrupt communications;

from those youthful lusts which war against the soul ; from all unchastity in thought, word, and action. Preserve my tongue from uttering falsehood, deceit or impiety, and my hands from committing injustice. Give me a cautious, sober, and devout mind, that I may tremble at the hazard of ever standing in the way of sinners, or walking after the counsel of the ungodly, or following evil companions. Enable me to respect the lessons of age and experience ; clothe me with the ornament of an humble, meek and contented spirit, and grant that I may carefully avoid every thing, which I should blush to reveal to my fellow men, and which would fill me with confusion and fear when I think of thee. Forbid, great God, that I should misapply or trifle with any portion of that precious time, for the use of which I am accountable at thy bar. Give me grace to find my highest delight in studying and obeying thy word, in approving myself to thee, in discharging my duty to those with whom I am connected, in laboring to become useful in my day and generation, and in forming those habits which will qualify me for the felicity of heaven.

I pray for these and for all other blessings in the name of thy son Jesus Christ, through

whom I humbly hope to be pardoned and accepted now and evermore. *Amen.*

FOR SUNDAY MORNING.

Most holy and eternal God, the Lord and Sovereign of all, I humbly present to thee, on this sacred morning, my soul and body, to be disposed of by thee for thy glory, to be blessed by thy providence, to be guided by thy counsel, and to be sanctified by thy spirit.

This day, O Lord, and all the days of my life, I dedicate to thee. Take from me all slothfulness, and give me a diligent and an active spirit. Teach me to watch over all my ways, that I may not be overcome by sudden temptations. Be thou my guide in all my actions; my protector in all dangers. Give me a healthful body, and a clear understanding. Make me just and charitable, religious and humble, cheerful and contented. Pardon all my sins, and fix my thoughts, my hopes, and desires upon heaven. Make me to love thee, my God, and Jesus Christ thy son, whom thou hast sent for my redemption. Teach me to obey all thy commands; and at last, make me a partaker in all thy promises.

Assist me in the duties of this day. In thy house may I be devout and humble. In

my retirement, may I examine myself, and repent of my sins. May I learn more of thee, and be better prepared to serve thee here, and to meet thee at last in heaven. Grant this, O God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord and Saviour. *Amen.*

FOR SUNDAY EVENING.

O Eternal God, great Father of men and of angels, who hast established the heavens and the earth in a wonderful order, making day and night to succeed each other; I make my humble address to thy divine majesty, begging of thee mercy and protection, this night, and ~~for~~ *for* ever.

O Lord, pardon all my sins; my light and rash words; the vanity and impiety of my thoughts; my unjust or unkind actions; and whatsoever offences I have committed against thee this day, or at any time before.

Blessed be thy name for the mercies which, every day and every hour, I receive from thee; that I am provided for in all necessities, and set forward in my duty, and my way to heaven. I would be glad and rejoice in thy mercy. As thou hast opened thy hand to me in goodness, so too enlarge my heart with thankfulness, and fill my mouth with praises.

Sanctify to me the holy truths, which I have this day heard in thy house, read in thy word, or had imparted to me by my teachers. May I grow in grace, as I advance in years ; and, the longer I live, be the better prepared to die.

O Almighty God, extend thine abundant favor and loving kindness to all my friends and benefactors ; reward them for all the good, which from thy merciful providence they have conveyed unto me. Pity all who are afflicted, and need thy supporting hand. Be the protector of my country, and of the church of Christ, and do good unto all mankind. This prayer I offer in the name of Jesus Christ, the redeemer of men. *Amen.*

FOR SUNDAY MORNING.

O God of power, and of grace, who hast raised thy son Jesus Christ from the dead, on the first day of the week, I pray thee to raise my thoughts, this day, to heaven, where Jesus Christ is. Thou hast taught me to call this the Lord's-day. O may I serve thee much this day, and get more knowledge of my blessed Saviour. Let me know him as thy dear son, who came into the world to redeem sinners by calling them to repentance, and a holy life. Let me love to

hear and read of thee, and of Christ, and of the things of heaven. Make me delight in thy worship, and to learn what I must believe, and what I must do to be saved.

When I go to thy house of prayer, may I behave with reverence, and join in thy worship with my whole heart, and listen to the instructions of thy ministers with a wish to learn my duty. May I lay aside all work and amusement, inconsistent with serious and holy feelings, that I may spend all my time in obtaining religious knowledge, and in improving in piety.

Bless those who are appointed to give me instruction; and may I so attend to what is said to me, that I may grow wiser and better every day, and increase in virtue and wisdom, as I increase in years.

Deliver me from the dangers and temptations to which I am particularly exposed in my youth. Keep me from a proud and haughty spirit; from fretfulness, peevishness, and impatience; from a rash, obstinate, or heedless temper; from unkindness, from anger, and from evil speaking. Preserve me from the hateful sin of lying and deceit. Let me never dare to take thine awful name in vain, or to speak irreverently of holy things. May I always keep holy the sabbath

day. May I [honor my parents ;] love my relations and friends, and be ready to pity, forgive, and do good to any who wish to do me harm. Let me never envy others, or covet what is not my own, lest I should be tempted to the dreadful sin of stealing. Deliver me, O God, from all evil, and assist me to keep all thy laws and commandments, which thou hast given to make me good and happy.

Guide me by thy wisdom and goodness, while I am in this world, and hereafter take me to heaven, to be forever with thee ; and to thy name shall be all the praise, through Jesus Christ, my Lord and redeemer. *Amen.*

FOR SUNDAY EVENING.

Blessed God, how great is thy condescension in permitting a weak and ignorant being like me, to call thee my Father in heaven. Thou art the Creator of the world, and all that it contains. Thou didst make the heavens, and thou dwellest in unspeakable glory ; yet thou art pleased, when even the humblest, and feeblest of thy creatures desires to approach thee in prayer. Help me now, O my Heavenly Father, to offer thee my thanks for thy past mercies, and to ask aright for further favors.

I praise thee for preserving my life and health, and for giving me, this day, food and raiment sufficient for me. I thank thee for the good instructions which I have received. Help me to feel deeply grateful for thy great goodness in sending thy beloved son into the world to instruct me in the truth, and to save me from my sins, by leading me to repentance, and a holy life. I thank thee for his holy life, by which he set me an example, to follow in his steps. I thank thee that he was willing to suffer and die for sinners, and that thou didst raise him up on the third day, thereby revealing to us, that thou wilt raise the dead, and that there is a future life. I thank thee, and rejoice, that thou hast exalted Jesus Christ to thine own right hand, where he ever liveth to intercede for us. O help me to understand, and love the instructions of my blessed Saviour; to remember my own weakness, and to look to thee, through him, for support under temptation; for thou art always ready to assist those who sincerely desire to be kept from sin.

I confess, Almighty God, that I have often sinned against thee. I have too often done what I knew to be wrong, and I have neglected to do what I knew to be my duty. Thou knowest all my faults, for nothing can

be hidden from thee. Thou hast seen me, when I have disobeyed my parents; when I have been fretful, or unkind in my temper; when I have been idle, and refused instruction. Thou hast known when I have eaten and drank without being thankful to thee; when I have gone to sleep, or awaked without praying to thee. If I have indulged any wicked thoughts, or used any wicked words, thou hast known them. O forgive all my sins, and make me truly humble and sorry, that I have offended thee, and may I endeavour to live a more innocent and holy life in the time to come.

Wilt thou, O God, who seest me in the hours of darkness, as well as in the light of day, guard me this night from all accidents, and from all harm, and permit me to awake in the morning, again to call upon thy name. But if thou shouldst see fit to call me even this night, to die, may I be prepared to appear before the judgment seat of Christ, and be admitted to the joys of heaven, there to praise thee, forever and ever. *Amen.*

BEFORE READING THE SCRIPTURES.

Call my thoughts away, O Lord, from the things of this world, and compose them to attend to thy holy word. I praise thy name,

that thou hast put this best of books into my hands; and that I am permitted to read, in a language which I can understand, what is written to make us wise unto salvation.

O, God, help a feeble child to understand, and to obey the instructions of thy beloved son. Influence my mind and heart by thy truth, and holy spirit. Help me so to read, and meditate upon this holy book, that I may grow wiser and better. This prayer I offer in the name of Jesus Christ, my Saviour. *Amen.*

ON GOING INTO CHURCH.

I give thee thanks, O God, that thou dost grant me the privilege of entering thine house; and of again uniting with the assembly of the faithful in praising and worshipping thee. Give me a spirit of wisdom and reflection, that I may profit by the instructions of thy divine word, and that I may render the homage that is well pleasing unto thee, through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

PRAYER BEFORE THE COMMUNION.

God of mercy, who hast at this time called me to celebrate the sacrifice of my redeemer, in the service which he graciously appointed; grant that I may partake of

the communion with the sentiments of faith, charity and repentance which thou requirest. Purify my heart; animate my piety; and henceforth may my conduct be answerable to the engagement which I enter into at thy table, to be faithful unto thee till the hour of death, according to the example of Jesus Christ, thy son. *Amen.*

PRAYER AFTER THE COMMUNION.

What shall I render unto thee, O Lord. All thy blessings descend upon me. I will praise thee, I will bless thy name without ceasing, I will seek to preserve in my heart that peace which thou hast given me by thy son Jesus Christ; and to become capable of eternal salvation, by ceasing to do evil, by learning to do well, and by ever following in the footsteps of my gracious Saviour. *Amen.*

GRACE BEFORE MEAT.

O God, we thank thee for the blessings thou hast granted us; may we use them with moderation; and may our lives be devoted to loving and serving thee. *Amen.*

GRACE AFTER MEAT.

O God, blessed be thou for the good things thou hast given us; grant us at all

times that which is needful for us; and strengthen in our hearts those sentiments of gratitude and confidence which are due unto thee. *Amen.*

GRACE BEFORE MEAT.

Bless us, O Lord, and bless the gifts of thy providence to our use, that whether we eat or drink, or whatever we do, all may be for thy glory and our good. We ask it through Jesus Christ. *Amen.*

GRACE AFTER MEAT.

We praise thee, O God, for all our earthly supports and enjoyments, and for our hopes of heaven, through Jesus Christ our blessed Saviour. *Amen.*

FOR THE MORNING WHEN GOING INTO SCHOOL.

O God, who art the source of true wisdom, I implore thy blessing; I beseech thee to enlighten my understanding, and to strengthen my memory, that I may both comprehend and retain the things I shall be taught. Render me docile and obedient to my superiors; give success to my studies, and enable me to render them subservient to a life of piety, and to my salvation, through Jesus Christ my Saviour. *Amen.*

FOR THE AFTERNOON WHEN GOING INTO SCHOOL.

Heavenly Father, giver of all grace, smile on my efforts, and on the care that is taken to give me instruction; may I go out from the presence of my instructors with increased knowledge and wisdom, that I may fulfil the hopes of my earthly friends and become well pleasing unto thee, through Jesus Christ, my Saviour. *Amen.*

ON COMMENCING ANY STUDY, OR LABOR OF ANY KIND.

O God of wisdom and of grace, bless all my diligent endeavours to gain knowledge. Give me such a degree of understanding and skill in those things, which I take in hand, as may fit me for that state in life, in which thy good providence shall place me. Suffer me not to trifle away my time, but let me treasure up that learning in my youth, which may be a support and a comfort to me in my riper years. And I beg of thee through Jesus Christ, that none of my other studies or labors, may tempt me to neglect the knowledge or practice of religion, or turn my heart aside from thee or the things of heaven. *Amen.*

ON LEAVING A FATHER'S HOUSE.

Since I am called to leave the house of my earthly parents, and they cannot see me, and take care of me, as they have done, I desire, O Lord, more particularly to put myself under the care of thee, my Heavenly Father, who art equally present everywhere. Whatsoever I want, may I turn to thee, and find thee my helper, and my almighty friend; I beseech thee through my blessed Saviour. *Amen.*

FOR A YOUTH WHO IS GOING TO SEA.

O thou, whose goodness is unto all, and whose tender mercies are over all the works of thine hands; let me come to thee at this time and implore thy protection, while I go forth upon the great deep. Thou hast the winds and the waves under thy control; give them charge concerning me, to keep me, that I may suffer no harm; but if thou choose to send storms and tempests in my path upon the ocean, help me still to look up to thee as my Father, and say, "all thy ways are mercy and truth:" if I be buried in the waters, "thy will be done;" and if thou preserve my life, "thanks be to thy name."

Be pleased to prosper me, in my lawful

business ; let me not yield to the temptations which will assail me ; and give me at all times that sense of thy presence which shall make me fear to sin. Wilt thou keep my dear friends from sickness and death, during my absence, and may we meet again, with hearts to thank thee, the giver of all good : I ask it through Jesus Christ. *Amen.*

FOR A YOUTH AT SEA. *V*

Glorious and Almighty God, who hast appointed me by thy providence “to go down to the sea in a ship and to do business in the great waters,” help me to take notice of the “works of the Lord, and his wonders in the deep.” When I view the heavens which thou hast made, and observe the sun and the stars, whereby our course of sailing is directed, let me adore thy greatness, who causest the sun to fulfil his daily circuit, who “numberest all the stars, and callest them by their names.” Keep me from all those temptations, and those wicked ways, which I may be in danger of, in this sort of life ; and in whatsoever part of the world I am, let me not venture upon any sinful practice, but always remember that a holy God hath his eye upon me, and his hand will find me out. Bring me safe to the port to which I am

sailing at this time ; and whensoever thou shalt see fit to call my soul away, let it be taken up to dwell in heaven with thee, and with my blessed Redeemer ; through whom be rendered to thee all honor and praise forever. *Amen.*

FOR A YOUTH RETURNED FROM SEA.

How condescending art thou, O Lord God. Thou hast not despised my prayer, nor turned away thy mercy from me ; I have gone forth upon the great deep, under thy protection ; in every distress and danger, I cried unto thee, and thou didst hear me. "Thou madest the storm a calm, so that the waves thereof are still." Thou hast preserved my dear friends in my absence ; and we are all living witnesses that thou art good. Let me have a heart to give myself away to thee, to dispose of me as thou shalt see good ; and may my treasure be in heaven, and my heart be there also ; and when I die, may I go and dwell there. Be pleased to hear me, and accept my thanksgiving, and answer my petitions, I beseech thee in the name of the Lord Jesus. *Amen.*

ON GOING TO A TRADE OR PROFESSION.

I thank thee, O Lord, that thou dost permit us to look up to thee for direction and assistance in all our concerns. As I am now about to take an important step in life, I desire to ask thy blessing and support. Thou hast appointed unto every one to be engaged in some business in this world, and I desire to be instructed in some honest labor or calling, so that I may be useful to society, and to myself, and not become a burden to others.

I pray that the business upon which I am now about to enter, may be for my benefit in this world, and at the same time may be no hindrance to me in the things of religion, and in my way to heaven. May I feel the importance of being faithful, industrious and frugal, that I may fulfil my duty to my employers, and form such habits, as will make me worthy of the esteem of good men; and above all, will secure to me thine approbation, and thy blessing upon all my labors. May thy wisdom guide me; and may thy good providence determine everything for my best good, for time and for eternity. *Amen.*

FOR A YOUTH IN APPRENTICESHIP.

Let thy presence be with me, most gracious God, in the station and family where thou hast placed me. Keep me from the many snares and temptations, that attend youth on all sides. Let me set a daily watch upon all my ways, that I may not offend thy majesty. Make me first faithful to thee, and then to my master, even when I am not in his sight. Let me so fill up every part of my time, and manage the concerns intrusted with me, that I may not be afraid to be called to an account. And grant, O Lord, that I may be so well acquainted with the proper business of my calling, and find such favor in the sight of men, that I may hereafter become useful in the world, and glorify thee in the whole course of my life; I ask it through Christ Jesus my Lord. *Amen.*

FOR A YOUNG PERSON WHO IS POOR.

Most high God, who art the wise ruler and disposer of all thy creatures; I desire humbly to submit to thy providence, by which I, and my father's house are placed in a low estate in this world. Help me to remember that Jesus Christ, thy well beloved son, was

willing to be brought up in a poor and mean condition ; and let me not be impatient of that state, which our Saviour himself endured, " who, though he was rich, yet for our sakes became poor."

Save me, I pray thee, from the temptations which attend poverty. Let me never envy the rich, nor grow uneasy because I see other young persons better fed, and better clothed than I am. I would bless thee from my heart, that thou providest any food and raiment for me, to keep me from hunger and from cold. Suffer me not to covet what belongs to others ; and much less to put forth my hands to the money or goods of my neighbour ; or to steal, or to pilfer from him. Make me content under my circumstances, and diligent in my daily learning or work ; and let me never want what is necessary to support my life.

The less I have here on earth, make me the more careful to seek after a treasure in heaven ; and in thine own time bring me in safety to the possession of those joys, which are prepared for all who love thee, through Jesus Christ. *Amen.*

FOR YOUNG PERSONS IN MIDDLE CIRCUM-
STANCES.

I desire to praise thy wisdom and goodness, O my Heavenly Father, that thou hast not given me so great riches in this life that I should be tempted to forget thee, and my need of a heavenly inheritance; and that I am not so poor as to be under any temptation to repine at my allotment in life, or to steal my food and raiment. Let me never envy the rich, and may I ever be thankful that I am not poor, but that thou hast given me food and clothes convenient for me. Help me, Lord, to be diligent in the employment which thou assignest me; and may I constantly endeavour to do good to others. Carry me safe through all the dangers of this world, till I am prepared for a better state in the world to come, to which will it please thee to admit me, for thy mercy's sake declared in Jesus Christ, my Saviour. *Amen.*

FOR THE CHILDREN OF THE RICH.

I adore and bless thy good providence, O Lord, which has placed me in the midst of plenty, and given me friends who provide for

me such a variety of comforts. Grant that I may not forget thee, the giver of all good things. Though thou feedest me with the finest of the wheat, and arrayest me in better apparel than many others, yet let me remember that I am made of the same flesh and blood, as the poorest child on earth. Suffer me not therefore to be proud and high-minded, to exalt myself above others, or look down upon them with a scornful eye; but teach me to pity the poor, and relieve them according to my ability. Make me careful to grow rich in good works, and to increase more in knowledge, and in every virtue, since I have greater advantages than others. Help me to remember too, that without that inheritance, which belongs only to the good, I shall be poor in the world to come. Let me not trust in earthly riches, which do but make to themselves wings and fly away; but let me endeavour to secure those heavenly treasures which will abide forever; through Jesus Christ, our Lord and Saviour. *Amen.*

IN SICKNESS.

Great, and everlasting God, we are feeble and dying creatures; our health, our

strength, and all our comforts, depend entirely upon thee. When thou sendest sickness, no medicines can remove it without thy blessing. I beseech thee, therefore, to bless the medicines, which are used for my recovery from this distemper. Let not this sickness be unto death; but, if it please thee, let me live yet longer in this world, to serve thee, and to prepare for eternity. May thine almighty word command this disease to depart, and it shall depart; and let me yet rejoice in thy mercy.

But, O my God, enable me to say from my heart, "thy will be done." If thou art now about to take me out of this world, prepare me for so great and solemn a change. Assist me to examine myself, and to repent of all my sins; and wilt thou forgive them all, through thine infinite mercy in Jesus Christ. May I be assisted to look forward with hope and joy to the eternal world; and whenever thou shalt see fit to call me away, may I be received into thine heavenly kingdom, where there shall be no more sickness, nor sorrow, nor dying.

Bless my kind friends, who are doing so much for me. Make me grateful to them. Make me patient and resigned; and what-

soever be thy will, may I submit with all humility. I know that thou dost afflict me only for my good. May I consider what thou dost intend by this dispensation of thy providence, and may I be made better thereby. And whether I live, or die, may I be the Lord's.

This my humble and imperfect prayer, O God, I offer in the name of my blessed Redeemer. *Amen.*

ON SICKNESS IN A FAMILY.

Great and everlasting God, we are feeble, dying creatures; our health, our strength, and all our comforts, depend entirely on thee. When thou sendest sickness, no medicines can remove it, without thy blessing. I entreat thee, therefore, bless the medicines that are used for the recovery of my dear father, [mother, brother, sister, &c.] from this distemper. Let not this sickness be unto death, but let him [her] yet live, to do thee service in the world. Command the disease to depart, and it shall depart, for thy word is almighty; and let the whole family rejoice in thy goodness, and give thee all honor and praise, through Jesus Christ. *Amen.*

ON THE RECOVERY OF THOSE THAT ARE SICK.

All glory be given to thy name, O Lord, who art the great and powerful Physician. Thou didst hearken to the requests of our family, and heal my dear father, [mother, brother, sister, &c.] when he [she] was smitten with sickness, and brought very low. Let me ever remember, that thou art a God, hearing prayer, and trust in thee at all times. Let me call upon thee in a day of distress, and let all our lips be filled with thy praises. *Amen.*

ON ANY CALAMITY IN A FAMILY.

Glorious God, thou art the allwise Governor of this world, and seest it needful to afflict us at this season. Thou hast suffered a heavy calamity to fall on my father, [mother, brother, sister, &c.] and we are all concerned in the general sorrow. I pray thee, teach us all to take due notice of thy hand, and to lie humbled before thee. Sanctify our present distress, that our hearts may be made better by it. Let me gain some good to my soul, in my younger years, by such sore and painful troubles. And by all thy methods of providence and grace, let me be trained up to thy heavenly glory. *Amen.*

ON THE LOSS OF FRIENDS.

Almighty and most holy God, who livest forever and ever; thou hast given us the life which we enjoy, and at thy command our bodies die, and return to dust. It has pleased thee in thy wise and holy providence, to permit death to come very near unto me. Thou hast removed one who was tenderly connected with me, out of the land of the living. O thou, who art pleased to permit me to call thee "my father who art in heaven," make this affliction profitable unto my soul. How ought I to adore thine infinite goodness, that thou hast given us souls, which if we serve thee, shall live forever in happiness; that thou hast revealed to us that there is another world beyond the grave; and that, after death, we shall all stand before the judgment seat of Christ, to receive according to the deeds which we have done in this life, whether they be good, or whether they be evil.

Grant, I pray thee, that seeing others die, and go to give up their great and last account, may teach me to be also ready. Give me grace to improve the sorrow which I now feel, so that I may find, that it was good for me to be afflicted. May it impress my mind

more deeply with the uncertainty of life, which, at its greatest length, is but short for the great work which I have to do. May I have true repentance for all my sins, and obtain thy forgiveness through Jesus Christ. And may I be more than ever careful to lead a pious and holy life, that whenever thou shalt call me, I may be ready to depart in peace, and go to be with thee, and with all pure and holy beings in heaven.

I pray thee to comfort all who mourn, and are in any kind of trouble. May my own affliction teach me to weep with those that weep, and to do everything in my power to comfort and console them. Let none who have the consolations of the gospel within their reach, mourn as those who have no hope; but remember that thou dost make all things work together for good, to those who love thee, and keep thy commands.

This prayer I offer, in the name, and as the disciple of thy well beloved son; and through him would ascribe to thee everlasting praises. *Amen.*

FOR A YOUNG PERSON WHO HAS LOST HIS
PARENTS.

O Lord, who never failest those that seek thee, but givest his food to the beast, and

to the young ravens which cry ; I cast myself upon thy infinite goodness, with whom the fatherless have been wont to find mercy ; be thou, O Lord, Father and God of my life, a most merciful and gracious Father unto me ; and provide what thou seest, in thy wisdom, to be necessary for me.

Especially bestow upon me some faithful friend that will admonish me, and take care of my soul, to bring me up religiously in the fear of thee my God. Preserve me from all distrust of thy good providence. Give me favor in the eyes of others, by an humble, submissive, and good behaviour towards them. Make me diligent and industrious in some honest calling ; and bless my labors and endeavours, that I may not be a burden unto others. But whatsoever my portion be in this world, give me grace to live so piously, justly and soberly, that I may not miss of that incorruptible inheritance, which fadeth not away, reserved in the heavens for us ; through Christ Jesus. *Amen.*

